

## **The Third Fort, 1854**

### **From the Journal of Andrew Fjeld**

As emigrants continued to arrive it was not long before the second fort was too small to accommodate the people who desired to make their home in Lehi so it was decided to enlarge the fort and build a much stronger bulwark against the red men. This proposition received a real boost from Brigham Young who called in at Lehi on his way home from making a treaty with the Indians. He held a meeting in Lehi on June 4, 1854 in which he urged the construction of the new fort without delay. The work on the fort wall was commenced the very next day and continued throughout the summer.

It had been decided to lay out a city with blocks twenty rods square and with six rod streets running north and south and east and west between them. Sixteen blocks had been surveyed by the Mayor, Bishop David Evans, forming a square four blocks each way. The center of this plat was the intersection of the streets by the First Ward Chapel. Between these blocks and the proposed wall a street eight rods wide was surveyed on the east, north and west sides. On the south side a street five rods wide was laid out. Thus the exact dimensions of the fort was 114 rods east and west and 111 rods north and south.

The wall was made of dampened earth and was six feet wide at the base tapering to three feet at the top and twelve feet high. The blocks inside of the fort were divided into 16 building lots and to secure one of these lots a man was required to build four rods of the wall or pay \$60.00 or give 60 bushels of wheat.